

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

*Please replace paragraph 0017 with the following rewritten paragraph:*

When the tacky plastic is scooped up, it can ~~happen that it adheres~~ partially or fully adhere to the carrier plates, even though the conveyor belt 6 bears a TEFLON® ~~Teflon~~ coating. To prevent sticking, a provision is made for the surfaces of the carrier plates 3 to be treated with an appropriate parting agent such as talc or powdered chalk.

*Please replace paragraph 0025 with the following rewritten paragraph:*

Another preferred embodiment is an apparatus according to the embodiments of paragraph 0021 to 0024, characterized by the attachment of a device (15) for cleaning the carrier plates (3) in the area of the cross travel drives (12).

*Please replace paragraph 0030 with the following rewritten paragraph:*

Another preferred embodiment is an apparatus according to one or more of the embodiments of paragraphs 0021 to 0029, characterized in that the circulating conveyor belt (6) can be coated with a parting agent in the bottom stretch by means of a roller coating unit (16).